20231.

Deposited: October 25, 2001

EL 645 877 797 US I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express mail under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Comprissioner (or Patents/Washington,

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NITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TECH CENTER 1600

Applicants:

Hiroshi SHINOKI, et al.

Group:

1656

Serial No.:

09/706,405

Examiner:

S. HOUTTEMAN

Filing Date:

November 3, 2000

Customer No.: 026418

For:

FIXATION OF NUCLEOTIDE DERIVATIVES

TO SOLID CARRIER

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## PETITION FOR A THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

Applicants hereby petition for a three-month extension of time to respond to the Office Action of April 25, 2001.

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$920.00, the required statutory fee for a threemonth extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1529.

01/16/2002 CUORACHA 00000074 09706405

71 FC: 117

920.00 JP

REED SMITH, LL

Respectfully submitted,

Samir R. Patel - Reg. No. 44,998

375 Park Avenue, 17th Floor

New York, NY 10152 Tel. (212) 521-5400

October 25, 2001